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# Current Employment Statistics Highlights



**May 2014**

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Prepared by Staff of the National Estimates Branch  
Current Employment Statistics Survey  
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

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[Email CES](#)

## Current Employment Statistics Survey Summary, May 2014

**Total Nonfarm + 217,000**

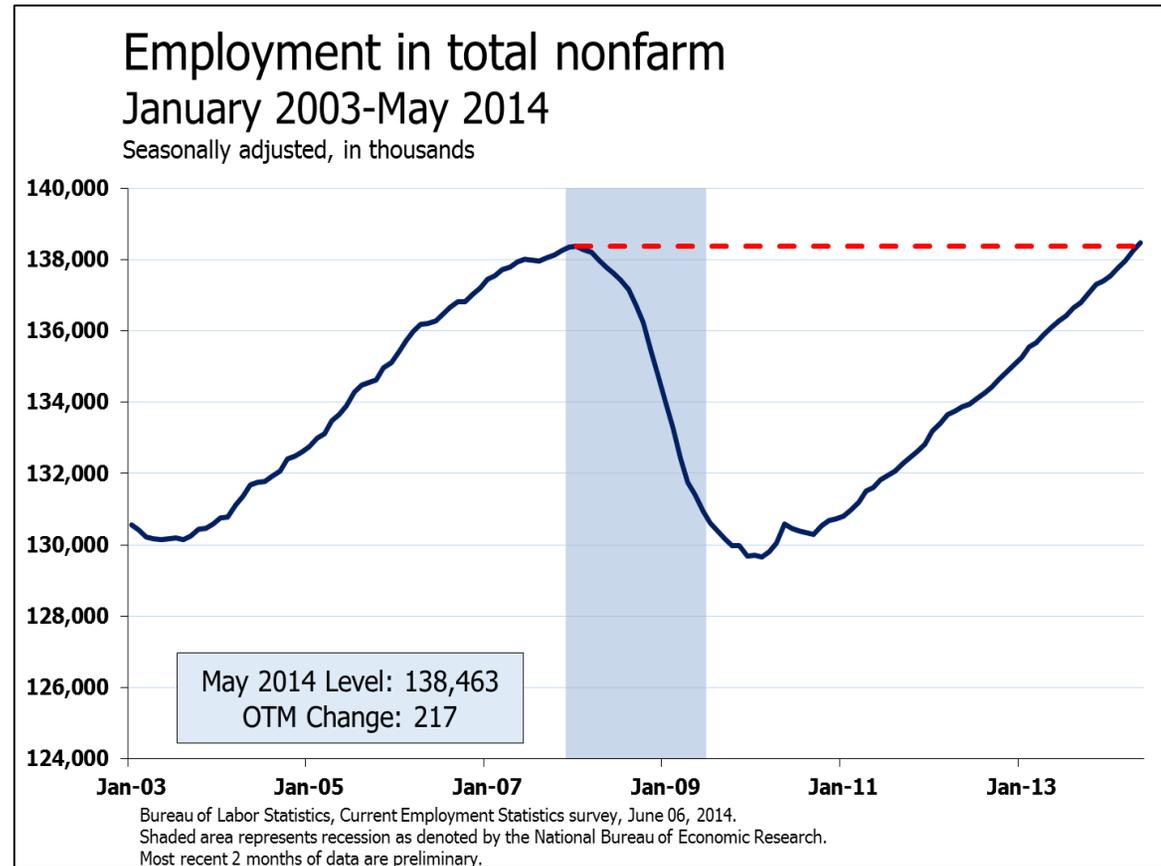
**Total Private + 216,000**

Nonfarm employment rose by 217,000 in May. Professional and business services, health care and social assistance, food services and drinking places, and transportation and warehousing contributed to employment growth.

With the gains in May, nonfarm payroll employment now exceeds its January 2008 peak. The economy had lost 8.7 million jobs between January 2008 and February 2010; since then, 8.8 million jobs have been added.

The employment change for April was revised down from +288,000 to +282,000, and the change for March, at +203,000, reflected zero net revision. Over the past 3 months, employment has increased by an average 234,000 per month.

Average hourly earnings rose by 5 cents over the month, following little change in April (+1 cent). Hourly earnings are up 2.1 percent over the year. Average weekly hours held at 34.5 hours.



### + 55,000 Professional and business services

Professional and technical services added 25,000 payroll jobs in May, with 7,000 each in computer systems design and related services and in management and technical consulting.

In May, employment continued to trend up in administrative and support services (+28,000). This industry has added 388,000 jobs over the past 12 months. Temporary help services accounted for half of the employment change in May and for 224,000 jobs gained over the year.

## Current Employment Statistics Survey Summary, May 2014

### + 63,000 Education and health services

Combined, health care and social assistance added 55,000 payroll jobs in May. Health care providers added 34,000 jobs. Ambulatory care added 23,000 jobs, including 7,000 in home health care and 4,000 in outpatient care centers. Hospitals also added 7,000 jobs over the month.

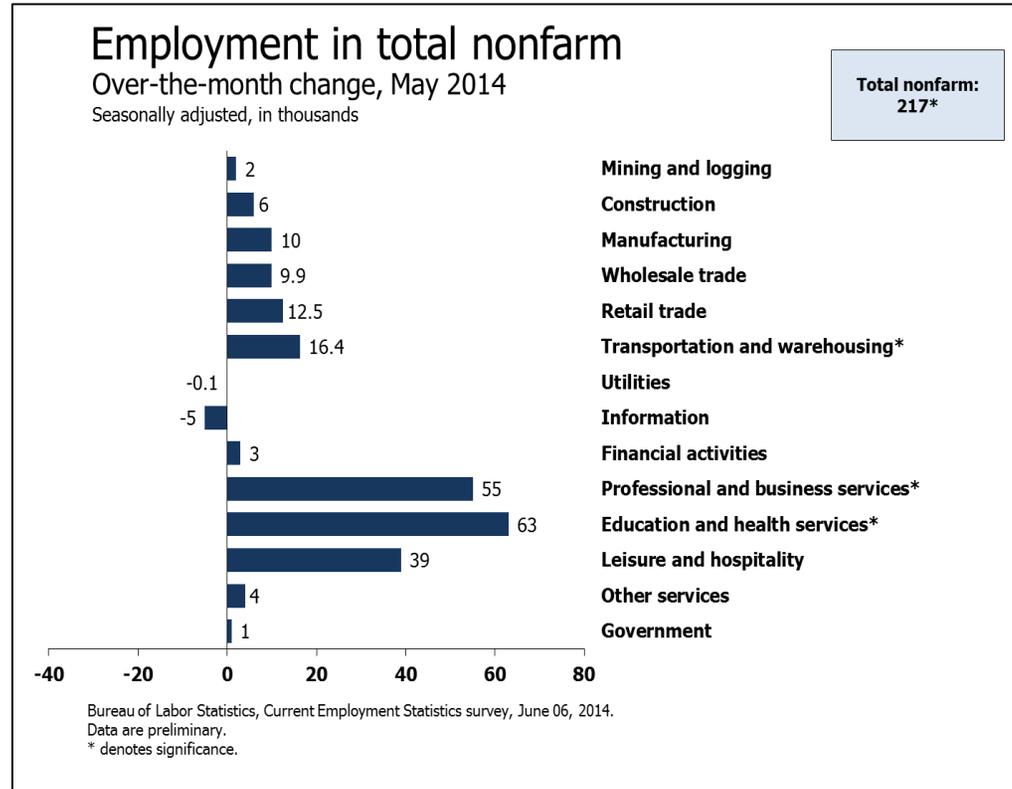
Employment rose by 21,000 in social assistance. Over the prior 12 months, job growth in this industry had averaged 7,000 per month.

### + 39,000 Leisure and hospitality

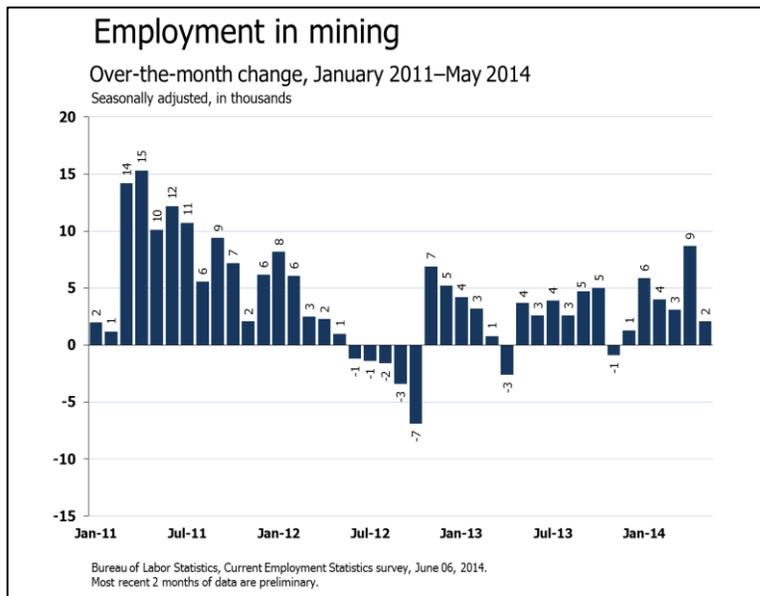
Food services and drinking places continued to add jobs in May (+32,000). Over the past 12 months, food services has added 311,000 jobs.

### + 16,000 Transportation and warehousing

Transportation and warehousing added 16,000 jobs in May. Support activities for transportation contributed 6,000 payroll jobs, while couriers and messengers contributed 4,000 jobs.

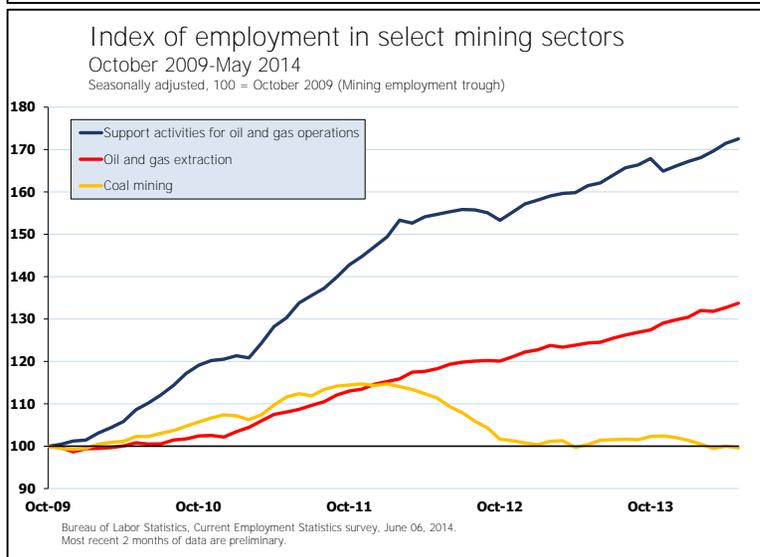


## Mining and Logging

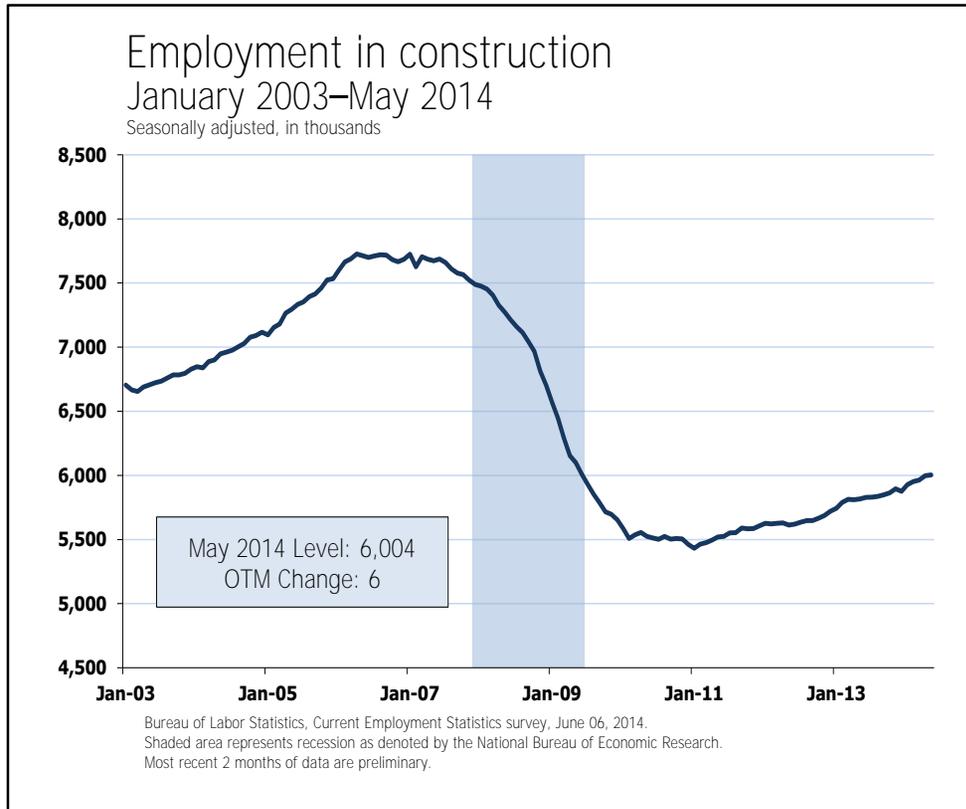


In May, mining and logging employment changed little (+2,000). Since the employment trough in October 2009, mining and logging has added 245,000 jobs. Mining accounts for 98 percent of this job increase.

Mining employment changed little (+2,000) in May. Since October 2009, support activities for mining and oil and gas extraction fueled mining payroll expansion by adding 175,000 and 53,000 jobs, respectively.

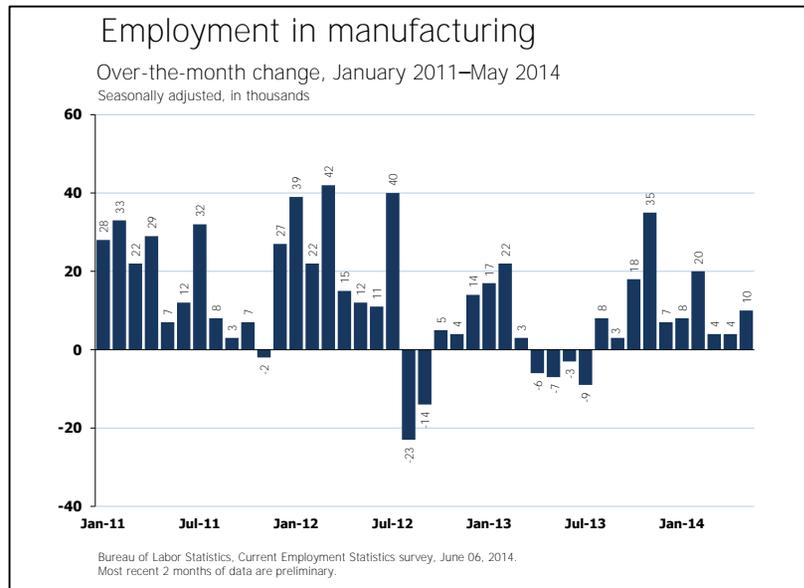


### Construction



Employment in construction edged up by 6,000 in May, bringing the current 12-month net job change to +188,000 (+3.2 percent). Since reaching an employment trough in January 2011, the industry has recovered 572,000 jobs, or about 25 percent of the jobs lost during the recent employment downturn.

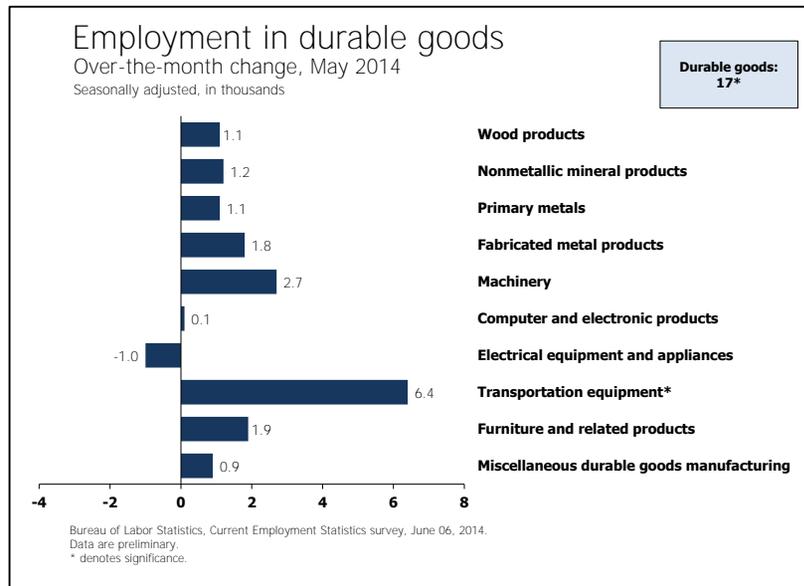
## Manufacturing



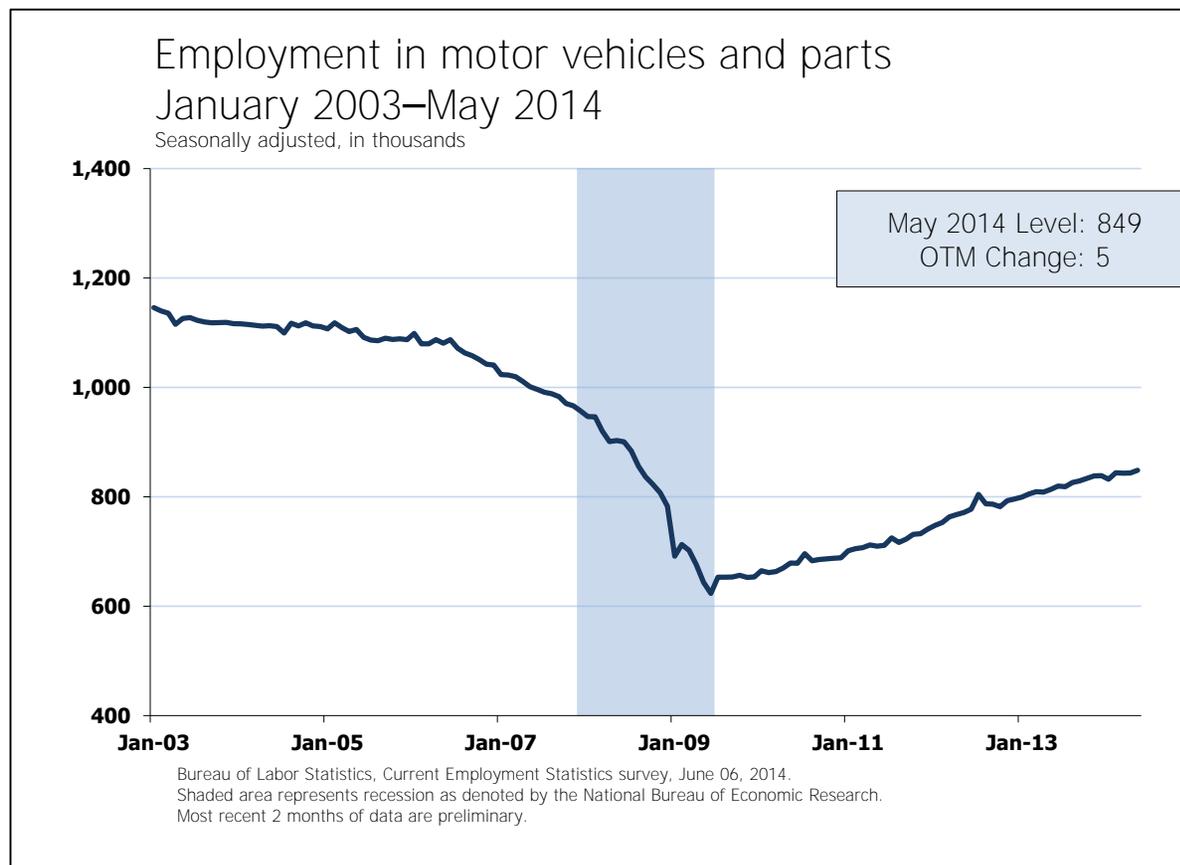
In May, manufacturing employment continued to trend up at a moderate pace (+10,000) for the 10<sup>th</sup> straight month. Since July, manufacturers have added 117,000 jobs, mostly in durables goods industries.

Over the month, employment increased in durable goods by 17,000. Within durable goods manufacturing, transportation equipment accounted for nearly 40 percent of the jobs added in May.

Average weekly hours for both production employees and all employees increased 0.2 hour to 42.1 and 41.1 hours, respectively. In May, production employees experienced the longest workweek since July 1945 when they clocked in 44.7 hours.



## Manufacturing

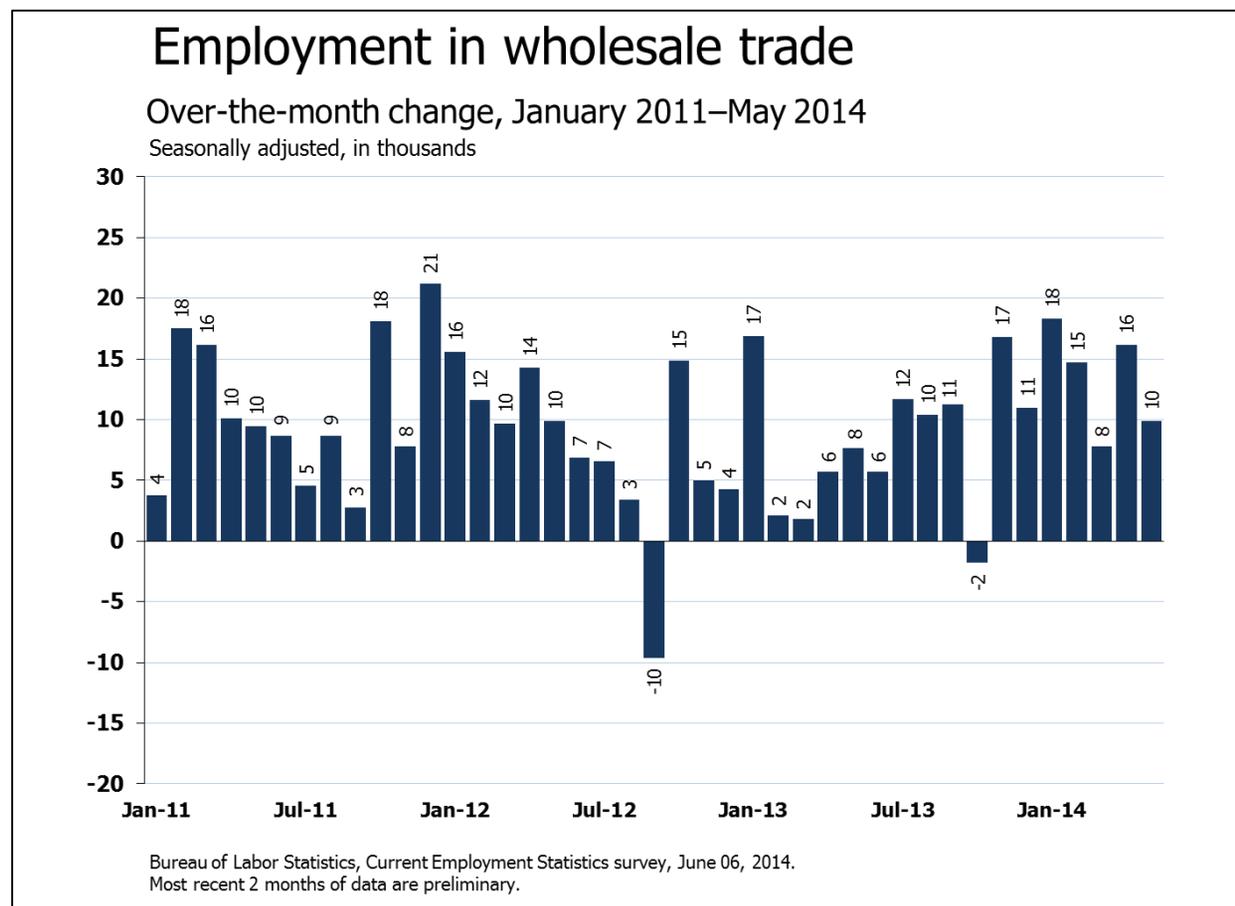


### NAICS 3361, 2, 3 – Motor Vehicles and Parts

Motor vehicles and parts employment increased by 5,000 in May. Over the past 6 months, the industry has added 10,000 jobs.

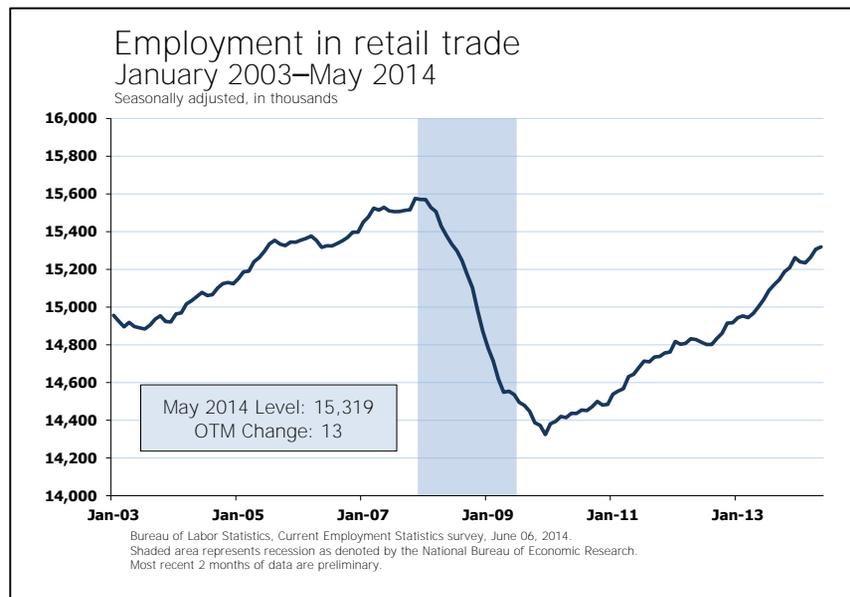
Supporting the employment trend in motor vehicles and parts, [U.S Auto Production](#) was at 239,000 vehicles in May. Throughout 2014, production has remained above the previous year's average of 225,000 vehicles per month.

## Wholesale Trade



Wholesale trade continued to trend up (+10,000) in May. The industry added 132,000 jobs over the past year. Wholesale trade has recovered 424,000 jobs, or 70.4 percent of the jobs lost during its most recent economic downturn.

## Retail Trade

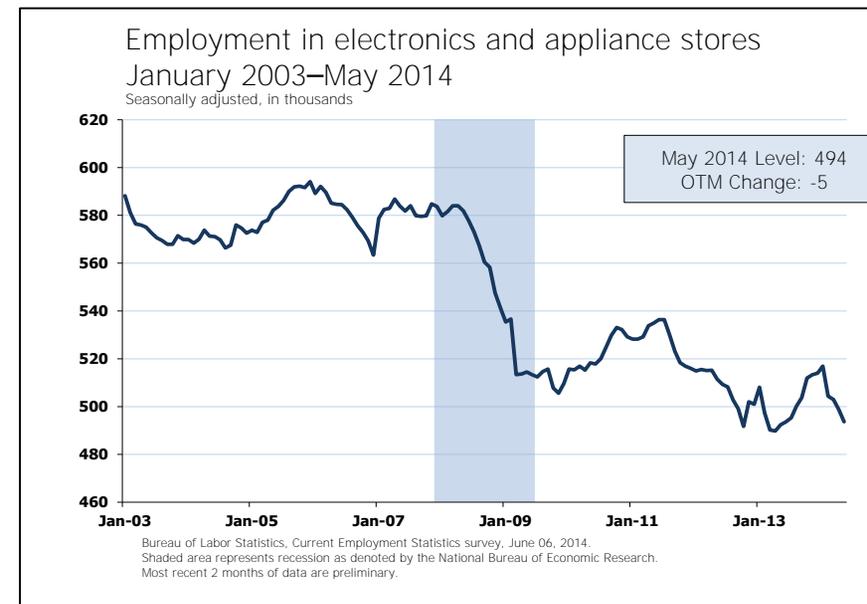


In May, employment in retail trade continued to trend up (+13,000). Over the past 12 months, retail employment has expanded by 317,000.

Recent retail-related indicators have been generally positive. The [Census Bureau](#) reported that retail sales for April increased by 0.1 percent. Retail sales were up 4.0 percent over the year. Additionally, the [Conference Board](#) notes that the Consumer Confidence Index posted a small increase of 1.3 points in May.

### NAICS 4411 – Automobile Dealers

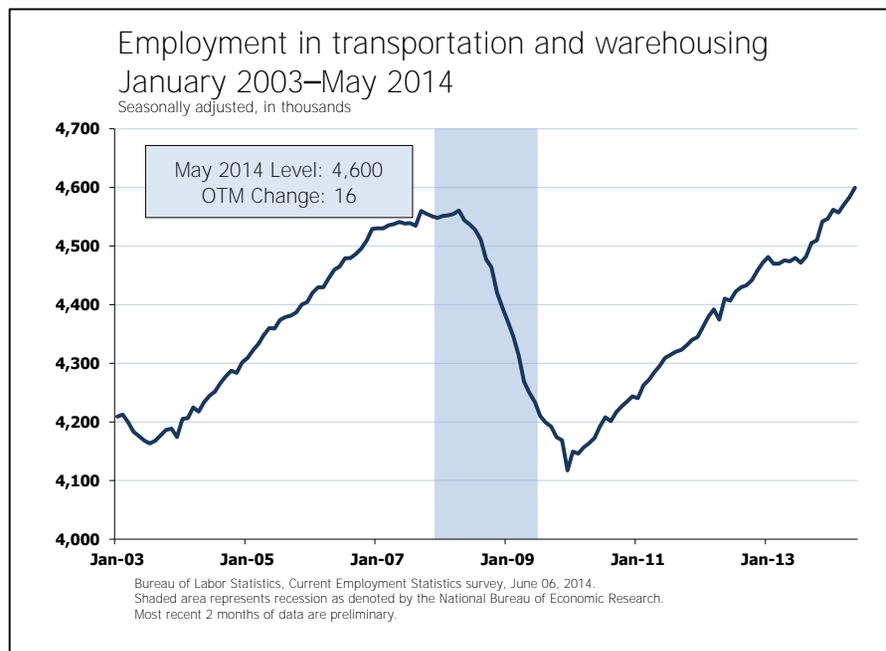
Automobile dealers added 7,000 jobs over the month, bringing total job gains to 43,000 over the year.



### NAICS 443 – Electronics and appliance stores

In May, electronics and appliance stores lost 5,000 jobs. Recent losses in the industry have offset prior gains. Over the past year, the net employment change is essentially zero.

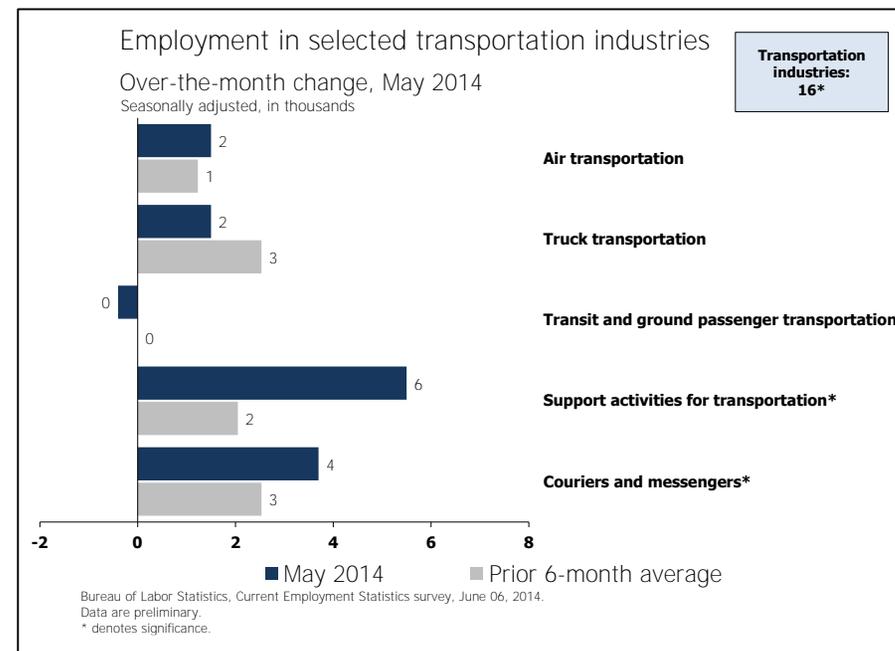
## Transportation and Warehousing



Employment in transportation and warehousing increased by 16,000 in May. Over the prior 6 months, the industry added 12,000 jobs per month, on average.

### NAICS 486 – Pipeline Transportation

Pipeline transportation employment decreased by 400 in May, following a gain of the same amount in April.



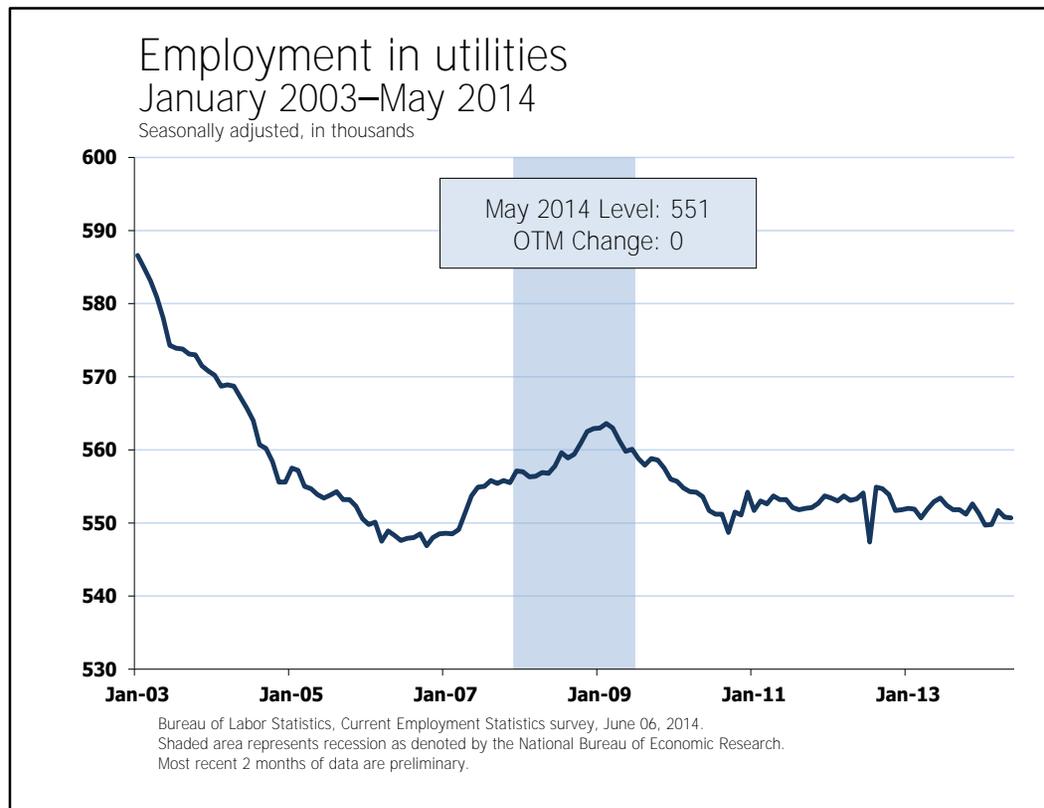
### NAICS 488 – Support Activities for Transportation

Employment in support activities for transportation increased by 6,000 in May. The industry has surpassed the employment level at its most recent peak in August 2008 by about 16,000.

### NAICS 492 – Couriers and Messengers

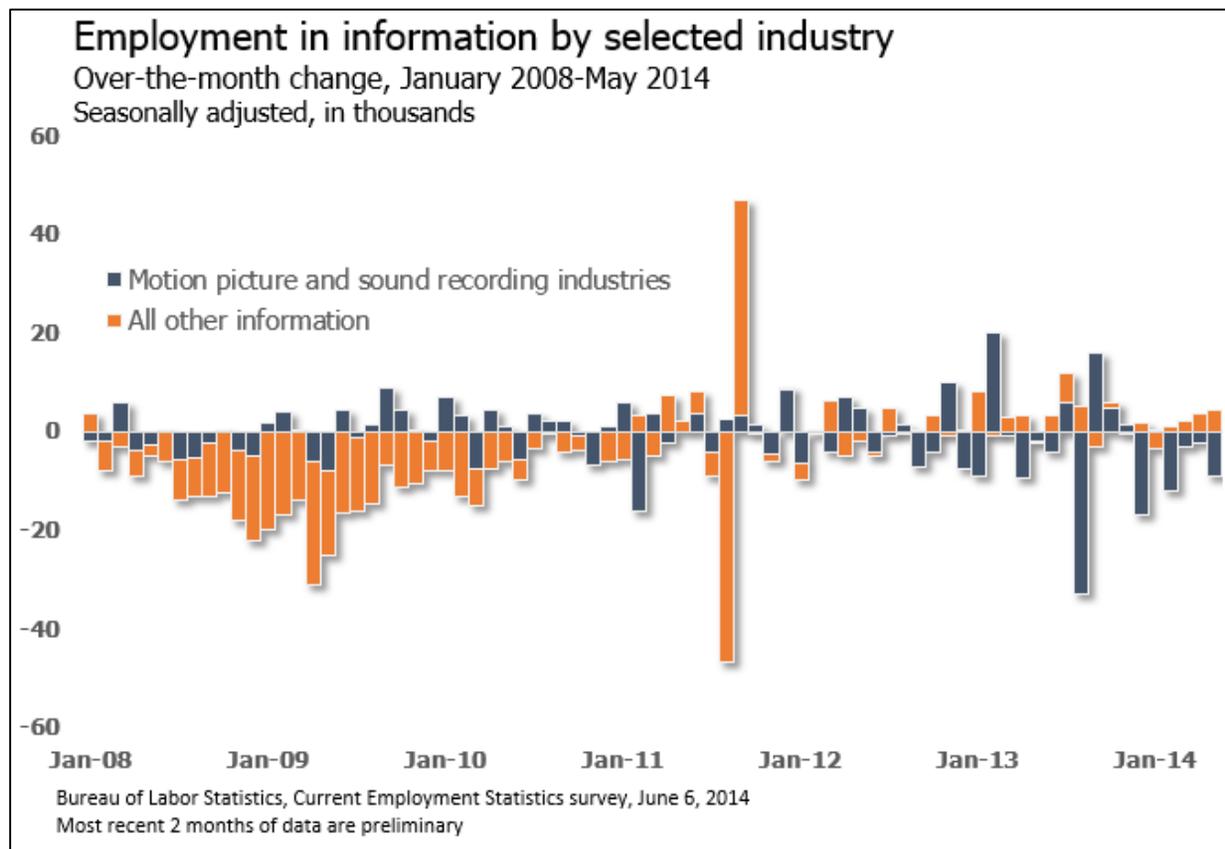
Couriers and Messengers employment increased by 4,000 in May. Over the past year, the industry has added about 25,000 jobs.

## Utilities



Employment in utilities was unchanged in May. Since reaching a trough in September 2010, employment in the industry has shown little net change (+2,000).

## Information

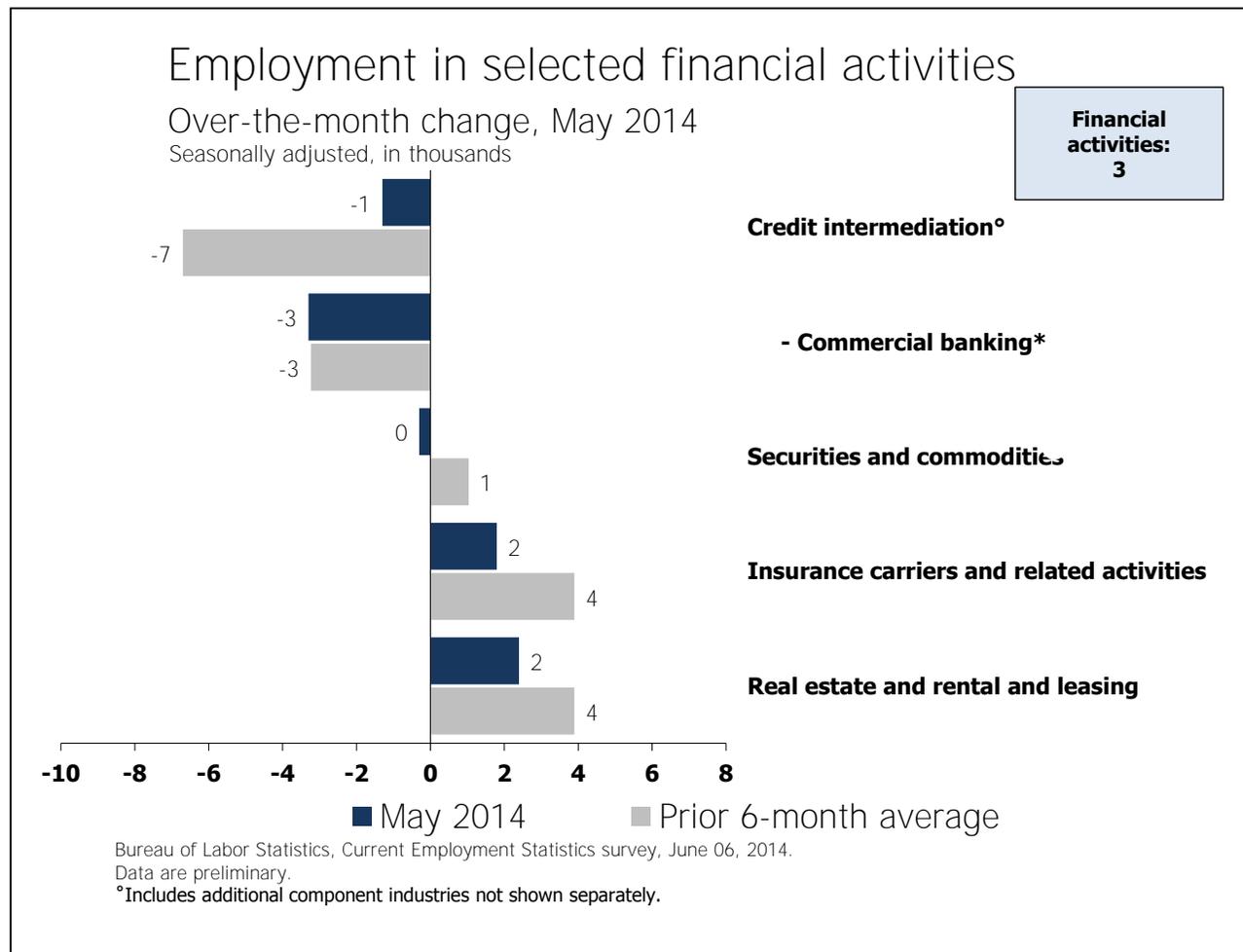


Employment in information changed little in May (-5,000). Over the last 6 months, this industry has shed 34,000 jobs.

### NAICS 512 – Motion picture and sound recording industries

Motion picture and sound recording industries lost 9,000 jobs in May. Throughout 2012 and most of 2013, this industry was characterized by offsetting employment movements that resulted in little net change. However, the monthly changes have recently become predominantly negative resulting in a net loss of 44,000 jobs over the last 6 months.

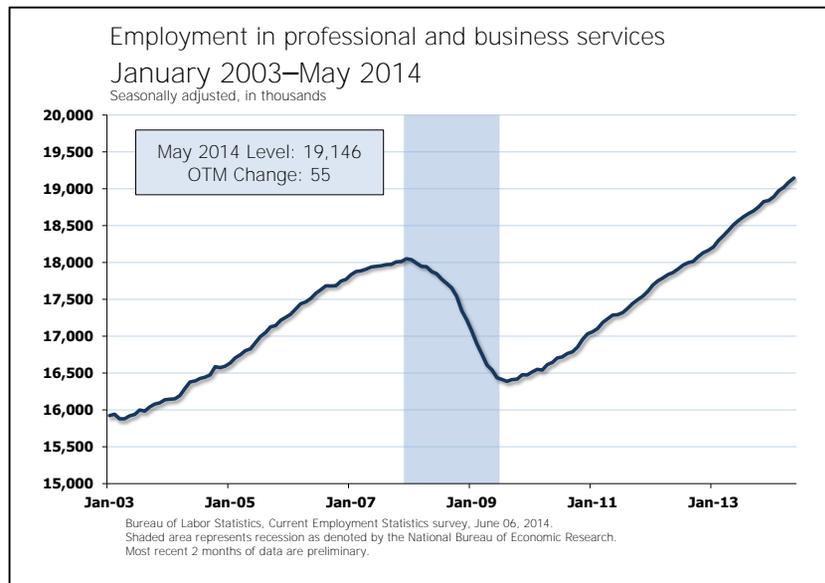
## Financial Activities



Financial activities employment was essentially unchanged in May (+3,000). Since reaching an employment low point in February 2011, financial activities has recovered 244,000 jobs—one-third of the jobs lost in the most recent downturn.

Employment in commercial banking continued its decline in May, experiencing a significant loss of 3,000. Since reaching an employment high in March 2012, the industry has shed a total of 51,000 jobs.

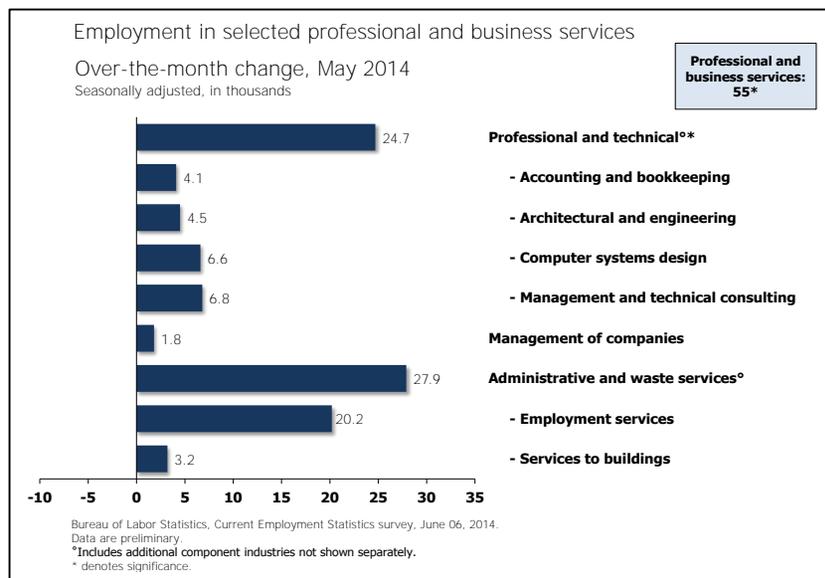
## Professional and business services



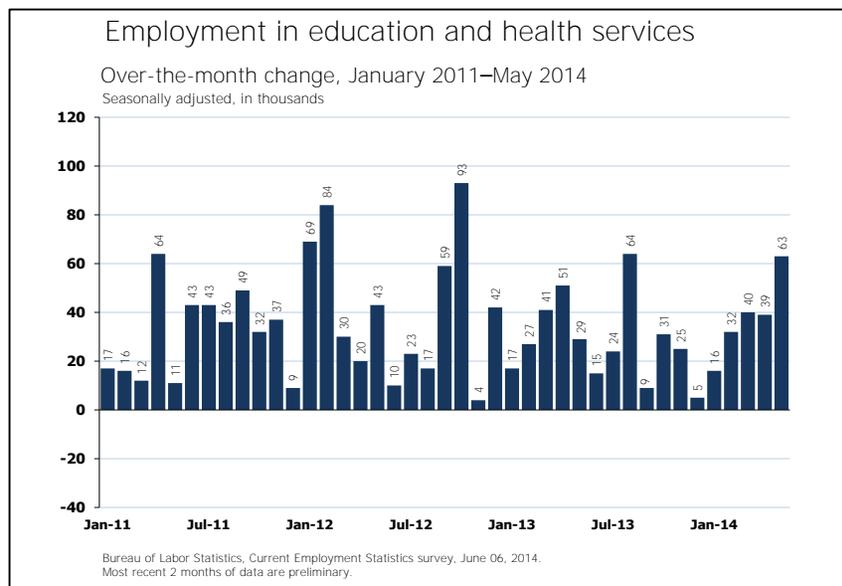
Professional and business services added 55,000 jobs in May, on track with the industry's prior-12 month average change. Over the month, the gains were split between professional and technical services (+25,000) and administrative and waste services (+28,000). Employment in management of companies and enterprises was essentially unchanged.

### NAICS 54 – Professional and technical services

Employment in professional and technical services increased by 25,000 over the month. Both management and technical consulting services and computer systems design and related services added 7,000 jobs. Over the past year, computer systems design and related services has added 64,000 jobs, nearly one-third of all employment gains among the professional and technical industries.



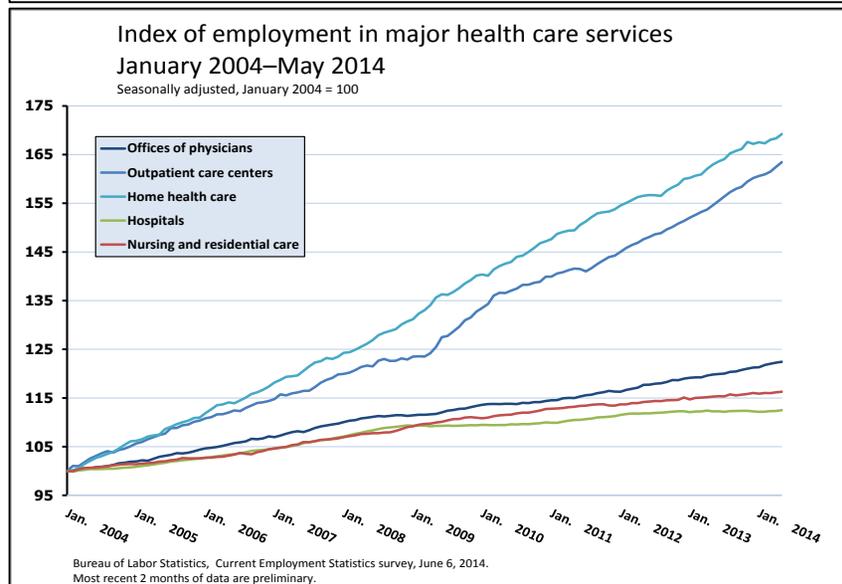
## Private Education and Health Services



In May, private education and health services added 63,000 jobs, the largest over-the-month job gain since August of last year. Within the industry, health care and social assistance gained 34,000 and 21,000 jobs, respectively. Educational services employment continued to trend up over the month (+8,000).

### NAICS 621- Ambulatory health care services

Ambulatory health care services employment rose by 23,000 in May, with the gain split amongst its major component industries. Ambulatory care has added an average of 16,000 jobs per month so far in 2014, similar to its average monthly job gain in 2013 (+15,000). Offices of physicians has been the largest contributor to ambulatory health care services gains so far in 2014. However, relative to size, outpatient care centers and home health care employment have added jobs at a more rapid pace.



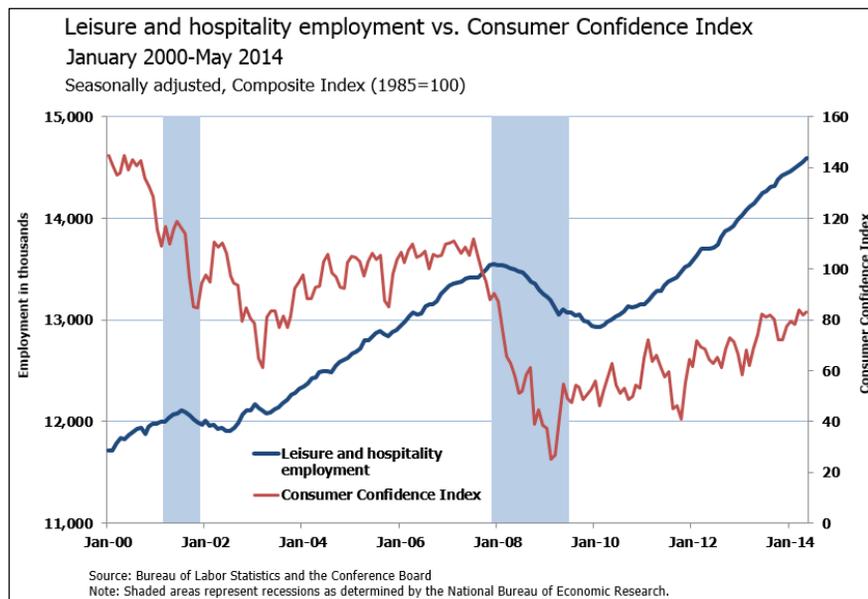
### NAICS 622- Hospitals

Hospitals added 7,000 jobs in May, continuing a 4-month upward trend after employment in the industry ticked down in December and January. The industry has added an average of 2,000 jobs per month so far in 2014, compared to an average monthly change of 0 in 2013.

### NAICS 624- Social assistance

Social assistance employment grew by 21,000 over the month, with most of the gain occurring in services for the elderly and disabled. Social assistance has added an average of 11,000 jobs per month in 2014, compared to an average monthly job gain of 9,000 for the prior year. Similar to health care, social assistance did not experience an employment downturn during the recent recession.

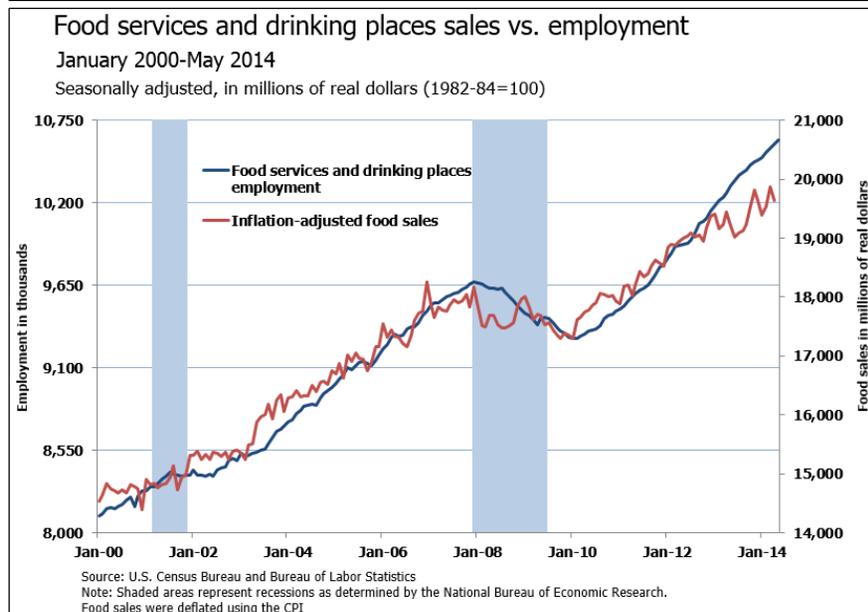
## Leisure and Hospitality



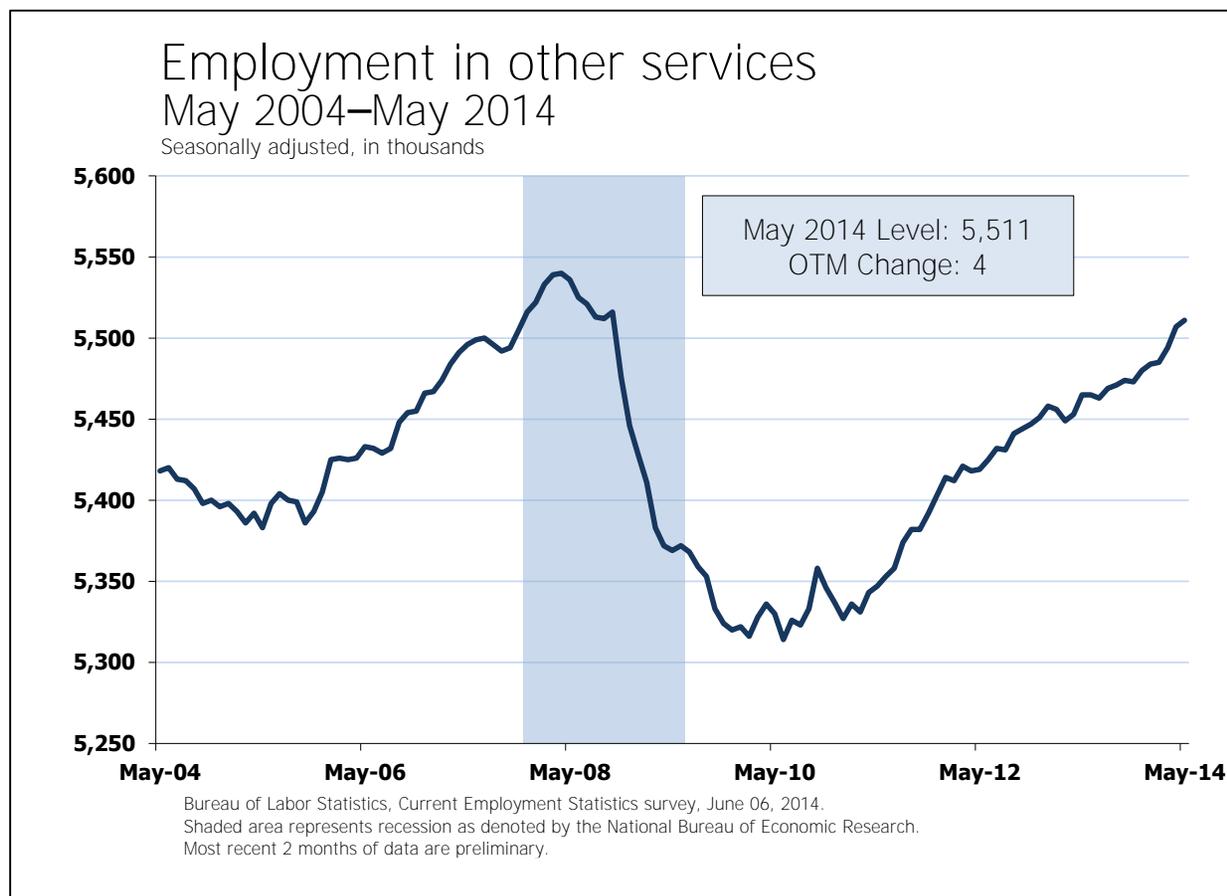
Employment in leisure and hospitality continued to trend up in May (+39,000). Since reaching an employment trough in January 2010, this industry has added about 1.7 million jobs. These job gains coincided with an increase in the consumer confidence index (source: [The Conference Board](#)).

### NAICS 722 – Food services and drinking places

Food services and drinking places continued to add jobs in May (+32,000). Since reaching an employment trough in February 2010, this industry has added 1.3 million jobs, accounting for 80 percent of the job gains seen in leisure and hospitality during the same period. The jobs added in food services and drinking places occurred during a period of similar growth in inflation-adjusted retail sales at food services and drinking places (source: [The U.S. Census Bureau](#)).



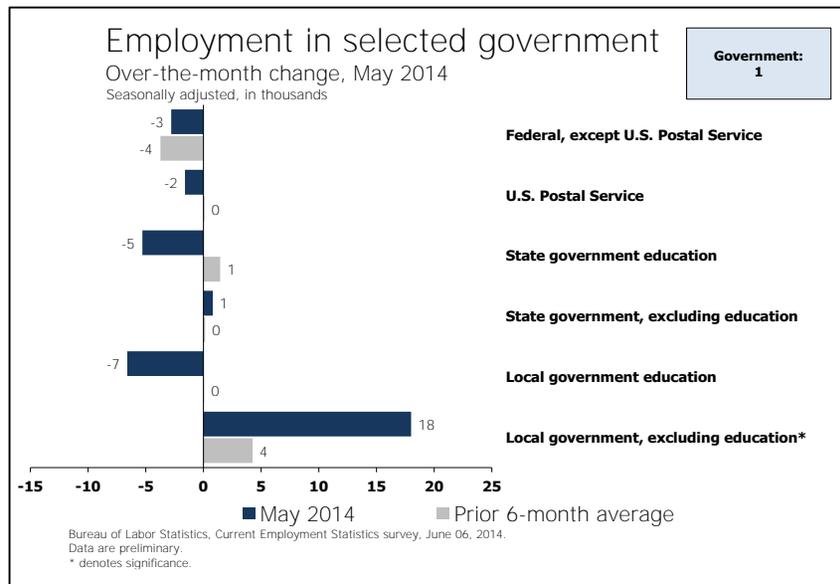
## Other Services



Employment in other services changed little in May, with no component industry experiencing a significant employment change. However, the industry has been experiencing steady job growth, with significant gains occurring over 3-, 6-, and 12-month periods. As of May, other services' employment level was 29,000 shy of its most recent peak, reached in April 2008.

The personal and laundry services industry has been the largest contributor to the employment recovery in other services. This industry has recovered all jobs lost in the most recent downturn, surpassing its September 2008 peak employment level by 37,000.

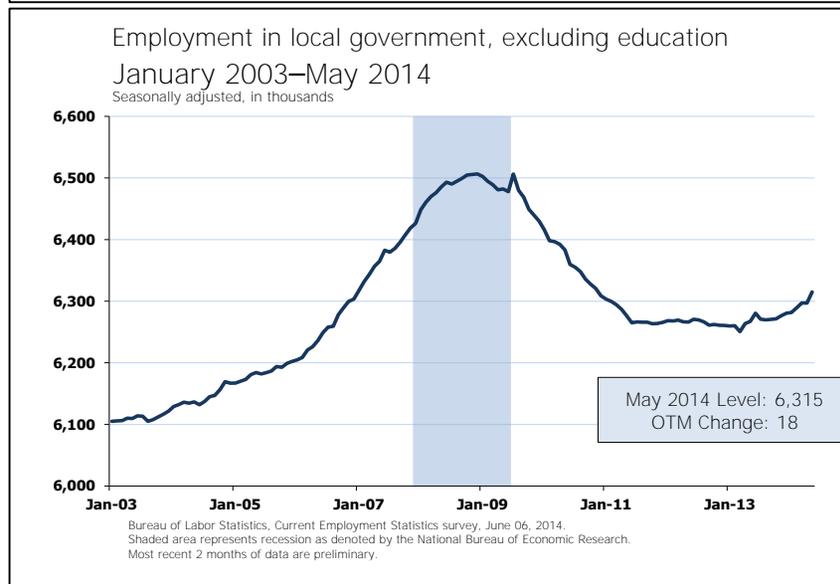
## Government



Government employment changed little in May. Over the month, a gain in local government, excluding education employment offset small job losses throughout most other sectors of government.

### NAICS 932- Local government, excluding education

Local government, excluding education added 18,000 jobs in May after changing little in April. Employment in the industry now stands at 6.3 million. The non-education portion of local government lost 256,000 jobs between December 2008 and March 2013, and has regained 64,000 jobs since the end of that downturn.





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